

ORDINANCE NO. 1055

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING NORTHFIELD CITY CODE, CHAPTER 26 – FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHFIELD DOES ORDAIN THAT (new material is underlined; deleted material is lined out; sections which are not proposed to be amended are omitted; sections which are only proposed to be re-numbered are only set forth below as to their number and title):

SECTION 1. Northfield Code, Chapter 26 – Fire Prevention and Protection, Article I. – Codes and Standards, Division 1. – Generally, Section 26-2 – Fire code adopted, is hereby amended, as follows:

Sec. 26-2. Fire code adopted.

- (a) The Minnesota state fire code ("MSFC"), as adopted pursuant to Minn. Stat., § 299F.011, and as modified by Minnesota Rules, Chapter 7511, is hereby adopted by reference, and incorporated in this section as completely as if set out in full. Except for deletions, modifications or amendments by this section, every provision contained in the MSFC, together with appendices D, N and O, is adopted and made a part of this chapter and shall be known and may be cited as the "fire code" of the city. This section incorporates the MSFC and adopts future amendments in accordance with Minn. Stat., § 645.31, Subdivision 2.
- (b) Amendments to the Minnesota state fire code. The following shall be amendments to the fire code:
 - (1) Appendix D—Fire Apparatus Access Roads
 - (i) Covers access road specifications, locations, turnaround requirements, and distances from structures.
 - (ii) Addresses fire lane designation, signage, and maintenance.
 - (2) Appendix N—Indoor Exhibitions and Trade Shows
 - (i) Appendix N was created to address the hazards that are associated with larger, more complex trade shows and exhibitions. Although many of these requirements are already included in various locations in this code, some of the more important items, such as requirements for covered booths and multiple-level booths, are not. The intent is to have the requirements covering these events in a single location with pointers to other locations within this code, which makes it easier for those organizing exhibitions and individual exhibitors who are unfamiliar with the fire code to locate the requirements that are applicable to them.
 - (~~23~~) Appendix O—Fires or barbecues on balconies or patios. This provision is adopted pursuant to the authority of Minn. Stat., § 299F.011, subd. 4, as it may be amended from time to time, and shall supersede less restrictive provisions of state law to the contrary.
 - (i) Open flame prohibited. In any structure containing three or more dwelling units, where dwelling units are configured vertically above or below other dwelling units, no person shall kindle, maintain, or cause any fire or open flame on any balcony above ground level, or on any ground floor patio within 15 feet of a structure.
 - a. Exception: Listed electric or gas-fired barbecue grills that are permanently mounted and wired or plumbed to the building's gas supply or electrical system and that maintain a

minimum clearance of 18 inches on all sides, unless listed for lesser clearances, may be installed on balconies and patios when approved by the chief.

- (ii) Fuel storage prohibited. No person shall store or use any fuel, barbecue, torch, or other similar heating or lighting chemical or device in the locations designated in clause (1).i. above.

SECTION 2. Northfield Code, Chapter 26 – Fire Prevention and Protection, Article I. – Codes and Standards, Division 1. – Generally, Section 26-3 – Permits and fees, is hereby amended, as follows:

Sec. 26-3. Permits and fees.

- (a) Operational permits and construction permits, respectively, as defined herein shall be required as authorized under the fire code and as determined by the fire chief. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - (1) Construction permits including plan review for fire protection-related work.
- (b) Open burn permits, as defined herein shall be required as authorized under article III, division 2, as determined by the fire chief.
- (c) A person desiring a permit as required by the fire code or this chapter shall submit an application to the fire chief along with the required fee as established by NAFRS by resolution from time to time.
- (d) Specific permit types and their fees shall be approved as required by resolution of the NAFRS board and will be posted on the NAFRS website.
- (e) Unless otherwise noted, all permits shall expire one year from the date of issuance.
- (f) For any permit required or authorized by the MSFC or this chapter, except an open burn permit under article III of this chapter, the following provisions shall apply:
 - (1) *Application.* Permit applications must be made to the fire chief on forms prescribed by NAFRS. All questions asked or information required by the application forms shall be answered fully and completely by the applicant. The applicant must comply with applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, and any additional requirements of NAFRS.
 - (2) *Denial.* The fire code official may deny any permit application when the activity for which the permit is sought violates any applicable law, statute, rule, regulation, or ordinance or is contrary to the public health, safety, or welfare.
 - (3) *Conditions.* Any permit may be subject to conditions that protect the public health, safety and welfare.
 - (4) *Permit fee.* Upon submission of a permit application, the applicant must pay a permit fee to NAFRS.
 - (5) *Revocation.* A permit is subject to revocation by the fire code official for failure to comply with permit conditions or failure to comply with any other applicable law, rule, regulation, or ordinance.
- (g) The building official and the fire chief shall act as a committee to determine and specify, after giving affected persons an opportunity to be heard, any new materials, processes or occupancies which will require permits, in addition to those now enumerated in the MSFC or this chapter. The fire code official will post such list of required permits on the NAFRS website and distribute copies thereof to interested persons.

State law reference—Adoption by reference, Minn. Stat. § 299M.04 and Minn. R. part 7512.2800 Municipal Permit Program.

SECTION 3. Northfield Code, Chapter 26 – Fire Prevention and Protection, Article I. – Codes and Standards, Division 1. – Generally, Section 26-4 – Fire inspection and fees, subsection (b) Fire inspection fees for facilities, is hereby amended, as follows:

- (b) *Fire inspection fees for facilities.* Fire inspection fees for all facilities located in the city, including but not limited to new construction, additions, redevelopment and alterations where a building permit is required, shall be in an amount to be set by NAFRS from time to time by resolution with the approval of the city council. This includes, but is not limited to:

(1) Inspections of fire protection-related work.

SECTION 4: This Ordinance shall take effect thirty days after its publication.

Passed by the City Council of the City of Northfield, Minnesota, this 11th day of July, 2023.

ATTEST:

Lynette R. Peterson
City Clerk

Rhonda Pownell
Mayor

First Reading:	06/20/2023
Second Reading:	07/11/2023
Published:	07/19/2023

VOTE: Y POWNELL Absent HOLMES Y NESS Y PETERSON WHITE
Y REISTER Y SOKUP Y ZUCCOLOTTO